United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/299

# Meeting of States Parties

Distr.: General
20 June 2016

Original: English

**Twenty-sixth Meeting**
New York, 20-24 June 2016

## Agenda

1. Opening of the twenty-sixth Meeting by the President of the twenty-fifth Meeting.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Election of the President.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of the Vice-Presidents.
6. Appointment of the Credentials Committee.
7. Organization of work.
8. Report of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Meeting of States Parties for 2015 (SPLOS/294).
9. Information reported by the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority.
10. Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (SPLOS/298):
    (a) Information reported by the Chair of the Commission;
    (b) Conditions of service of the members of the Commission.
11. Consideration of budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea:
    (a) Report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2013-2014 and 2015-2016 (SPLOS/295);
    (b) Appointment of auditor for financial years 2017-2020 (SPLOS/296);
    (c) Draft budget proposals of the Tribunal for 2017-2018 (SPLOS/2016/WP.1);
    (d) Nomination of a member and an alternate member to the staff pension committee of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (SPLOS/297).

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12. Report of the Credentials Committee.

13. Election of one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

14. Report of the Secretary-General under article 319 for the information of States parties on issues of a general nature, relevant to States parties, which have arisen with respect to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (A/70/74/Add.1 and A/71/74).

15. Other matters.

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# Meeting of States Parties

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24 June 2016

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## Credentials of representatives to the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

### Report of the Credentials Committee

*Chair*: Mr. Mohammed **Atlassi** (Morocco)

1. On 20 June 2016, the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea appointed, on the proposal of the President, a credentials committee consisting of the following nine States parties: Bulgaria, Ecuador, Gabon, Guatemala, Morocco, Nepal, the State of Palestine, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

2. The Credentials Committee met on 22 and 23 June 2016, and elected Mohammed Atlassi (Morocco) as Chair and Lowri Mai Griffiths (United Kingdom) as Vice-Chair by acclamation.

3. The Committee had before it memorandums by the Secretariat, dated 22 and 23 June 2016, on the status of credentials of representatives participating in the twenty-sixth Meeting.

4. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum of 22 June 2016, as supplemented by the memorandum of 23 June 2016, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by a person authorized by either of them had been received by the Secretariat for the representatives of the following 85 States parties participating in the twenty-sixth Meeting: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, China, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri

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Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

5. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum of 22 June 2016, as supplemented by the memorandum of 23 June 2016, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the twenty-sixth Meeting had been communicated by means of facsimile or in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the following 42 States parties: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Gambia, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia.

6. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum of 22 June 2016, information concerning the appointment of representatives had also been received from the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.

7. The Chair proposed that the Committee should accept the credentials of all the representatives mentioned in the memorandums by the Secretariat on the understanding that formal credentials of the representatives referred to in paragraph 2 of the memorandum of 22 June 2016, as supplemented by the memorandum of 23 June 2016, would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The following draft resolution was proposed by the Chair for adoption by the Committee:

*The Credentials Committee*,

*Having examined* the credentials of the representatives to the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea referred to in the memorandums of the Secretariat dated 22 and 23 June 2016,

*Accepts* the credentials of the representatives concerned.

8. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

9. Subsequently, the Chair proposed that the Committee should recommend to the twenty-sixth Meeting the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 11 below). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

10. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the twenty-sixth Meeting.

**Recommendation of the Credentials Committee**

11. The Credentials Committee recommends to the twenty-sixth Meeting the adoption of the following draft resolution:

## Credentials of representatives to the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

*The Meeting of States Parties*

*Approves* the report of the Credentials Committee on the understanding that the credentials of the representatives to the twenty-sixth Meeting will continue to be valid until the termination of the twenty-sixth Meeting, in accordance with rule 1 of the rules of procedure.

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# Meeting of States Parties

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## Decisions on budgetary matters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2017-2018

1. The Meeting of States Parties, having considered the draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2017-2018 (SPLOS/2016/WP.1), approved the amount of €21,119,900 as the budget of the Tribunal for 2017-2018, in line with annex I to the above-mentioned document.

2. Pursuant to regulation 5.3 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Tribunal (SPLOS/120), the contributions of States parties for each of the two years of the biennium 2017-2018 shall be determined on the basis of half of the appropriations adopted by the Meeting of States Parties for that financial period.

3. On the basis of the report on budgetary matters for the financial periods 2013-2014 and 2015-2016 (SPLOS/295), the Meeting noted that the cash surplus for the financial period 2013-2014 amounted to €1,837,669. The Meeting also noted that that amount would be surrendered and deducted from the contributions of States parties for 2017, in accordance with financial regulation 4.

4. The Meeting encouraged the Registrar to continue to manage the funds prudently and efficiently, seeking to achieve optimum utilization of the financial resources of the Tribunal.

5. The Meeting authorized the Registrar to make transfers between appropriation sections pursuant to financial regulation 4.6, to the extent that that was necessary to cover expenses relating to cases submitted to the Tribunal.

6. The Meeting decided that, without prejudice to the application of the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of future budgets of the Tribunal regarding the contribution to be made by the International Seabed Authority, the budget of the Tribunal for 2017-2018 would be financed by all States parties to the Convention. The European Union indicated that its agreed contribution to the budget of the Tribunal would be €95,000 for each year.

7. The Meeting also decided that a floor rate of 0.01 per cent and a ceiling rate of 22 per cent were to be used in establishing the rate of assessment of States parties for the budget of the Tribunal for 2017-2018.

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## Decision relating to the staff pension committee of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

*The Meeting of States Parties*,

*Considering* that the Meeting of States Parties at its sixteenth session decided that the staff pension committee of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea would be composed of three members and three alternate members and that one member and one alternate would be chosen by the Meeting of States Parties,

*Considering also* that the Meeting of States Parties chose Indonesia as member and Canada as alternate member of the staff pension committee in 2010 and 2007 respectively,

*Noting* that the terms of office of the Embassy of Indonesia in Berlin and the Embassy of Canada in Berlin have expired,

*Noting also* that, once their terms of office have expired, members and alternate members continue to hold office until their successors are nominated,

*Decides* to extend the nominations of Indonesia as member of the staff pension committee and Canada as alternate member of the staff pension committee for a three-year term of office starting on 1 July 2016.

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